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[54] EVACUATED TUBE TRANSPORT Inventor: Daryl Oster, Crystal River, Fla. Assignee: et3.com Inc., Crystal River, Fla. Appl. No.: 08/948,978 [21] Oct. 10, 1997 [22] Filed: Int. Cl.⁶ B61B 13/00 **U.S. Cl.** 104/138.1; 104/27; 104/28; 104/130.05 Field of Search 104/138.1, 138.2, 104/130.05, 130.01, 27, 29, 28, 30, 31 [56] **References Cited** U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS 616.255 12/1898 Pike 104/138.1 624,202 5/1899 Fordyce 104/138.1 5/1963 Berggren 104/138.1 3,090,328

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

An evacuated tube transport (ETT) system comprises: Evacuated tubes (200) along a travel route (100) for both directions; capsules (300) to transport occupants or cargo within the tubes; equipment (700) providing continuous transfer to tube while preserving vacuum; capsule suspension (400) that substantially eliminates drag; coordinated acceleration device (500); energy recovery braking (600); vibration control structures (820); tube alignment devices (230); automatic capsule switch (650) and synchronization (885); automated operation, inspection, and maintenance (810); methods of construction; redundant data (835), safety and security (880) systems. Low and high technology embodiments are comprehensively disclosed. Possibilities include replacement or augmentation of: vehicles, power lines, energy storage devices, power plants, heaters, air conditioning, water and sewer pipes, and communication cables and satellites. ETT provides continuous, environmentally benign, sustainable, local and international travel. Aerodynamic limitations, weather exposure, and obstacles are essentially eliminated; The system enables a quantum improvement in safety, speed and efficiency.

6 Claims, 18 Drawing Sheets

